

Appl. No. 09/900,087  
Amdt. Dated 09/22/2005  
Reply to Office action of 07/12/2005

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed July 12, 2005. The Examiner is thanked for his thorough examination of the subject application. In the Office Action, claims 1-7, 14-21 and 24-34 have been allowed. No amendments have been made to these claims. Claims 8-13 have been cancelled without prejudice.

For this Amendment, while Applicants respectfully traverse the outstanding rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(c) and 103(a) as applied to claims 8-13, further discussion as to the grounds for traversing these rejections is moot based on the cancellation of claims 8-13.

Hence, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the outstanding rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Appl. No. 09/900,087  
Amdt. Dated 09/22/2005  
Reply to Office action of 07/12/2005

### Conclusion

In view of the remarks made above, it is respectfully submitted that pending claims 1-7, 14-21 and 24-34 are in condition for allowance. Such action is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: 09/22/05

By

  
William W. Schaal

Reg. No. 39,018

Tel.: (714) 557-3800 (Pacific Coast)

12400 Wilshire Boulevard, Seventh Floor  
Los Angeles, California 90025

### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION (37 CFR 1.8A)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being:

#### MAILING

☐ deposited with the United States Postal Service  
as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:  
Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450,  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: 09/22/05

#### FACSIMILE

☒ transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and  
Trademark Office.

  
Susan McFarlane

09/22/05

Date